CHRISTMAS TIME

At Christmas time we remember loved ones and long-lost friends. Most of all we remember the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ into the world as a baby. We give one another gifts partly in memory of God's gift to us of Himself, and partly that we may grow more like Him through our giving.

We give one another gifts in memory of God's gift to us.

Christmas can also feel like a welcome "break" from our troubles. Unless we put our heads in the sand we cannot avoid the knowledge that the world is in trouble; that the great human systems of the world—money, food supply, etc. are collapsing. And we know that the powerful nations are arming themselves for what can only be the greatest conflagration the world has ever seen.

So Christmas also seems a good time to look forward to the Second Coming of our Lord when . . . "They will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of the sky, with power and great glory," (Matthew 24:30).

Let us look forward to that time and the unfolding of God's will.

Rev. Charity Benedicte

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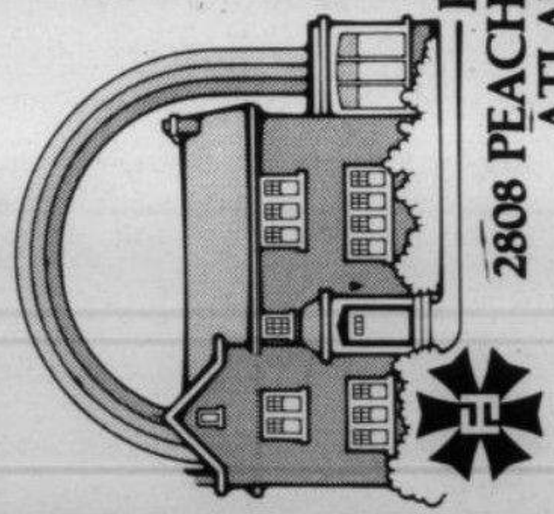
MERRY CHRISTMAS

THE FOUNDATION FAITH OF GOD
PO BOX 56411, ATLANTA, GA. 30343

"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men." Luke 2:14



FAITH CENTER,
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INSIDE
DECEMBER 1981

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CALENDAR

SUNDAY, 1-2PM.
LORD'S DAY CELEBRATION.

Our weekly worship service. Healing, praise, music, fellowship.

SUNDAY, 2-5PM.
HEALING PRAYERS.

A time set aside after the service for individual prayer and counseling with a minister.

THURSDAY, 12-1PM.
MEN'S BIBLE STUDY.

Study, praise and inner healing. With Rev. John Christopher. Please call for location.

THURSDAY, 7:30-8:30PM.
THE CIRCLE OF POWER.

The weekly prayer group for members of this Fellowship. Non-members welcome. Prayers for healing. With Rev. Raphael de Peyer.

THURSDAY, 8:30-9:30PM.
BIBLE STUDY.

Each week we look at a particular subject that affects the lives of all of us. With Rev. John Christopher.

CHRISTMAS EVE CELEBRATION
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24TH,
11:45PM–1AM.

Join with us in this candlelight service of carols, praise and glory to God to welcome in Christmas Day.

COMPASSION FOR ALL HIS CREATURES

"In that day I will make a covenant for them with the beasts of the field and the birds of the air and the creatures that move along the ground. Bow and sword and battle I will abolish from the land, so that all may lie down in safety."

Hosea 2:18

In the past, mankind thought of the earth as the center of the Universe. Everyone thought that the sun and the planets and the stars revolved around the earth. Now we know that this is not so, and that the earth is one tiny planet in a Universe so huge that we cannot grasp its size.

In the same way, mankind's attitude to animals has been man-centered. We have regarded them as just another resource, like coal or water or metal. And the only limitations to our useage of them has been their numbers and our

skill. We have not acted with compassion and responsible stewardship; usually we have acted with indifference to their fate, and often with appalling cruelty. For example, they are trapped most painfully for fur, used for "sport" in bull-fighting and dog-fighting, and (perhaps worst of all) vivisected and experimented on in laboratories.

But, did not God create the animals too? And is He not a God of Love? So by what right can we assume that His love is limited to the human race? Jesus was born in a stable, and animals were apparently good enough to be present at the coming of the Savior.

But things are just beginning to change. For many years there have been societies and goups devoted to caring for animals, and their fight has been a lonely one, with little support. However, just as we now know that earth is not the center of the Universe, so also there is the beginning of public support for the truth in regard to animals. Increasing numbers of people are insisting that just because we are stronger and have a higher technology, we do not have the right to abuse helpless creatures.

Recently I had the pleasure of attending an Animal Conference. It was held in Ocean City, Maryland, and was attended by about 200 people. They came from all over the U.S.A., and also from Canada and from Britain. It was very successful. And the blessings of God were there, in positive energy and love and vision.

The Bible tells us that man was created in God's image, and that He gave us dominion over the earth. Being created in His image surely means that He intends us to show love and compassion for all His creatures.

Rev. John Christopher

NEWS BRIEFS

"Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people."
Luke 2:10

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

Our prayers are with you for a joyous and Spirit-filled Christmas as we celebrate the birth of the Savior and look forward to His glorious Second Coming. We wish you all the love and happiness of the season.

Here at Faith Center we welcome you to festivities and fellowship at 8PM on Christmas Eve, and to a special midnight carol service to welcome in Christmas Day.

CHICAGO OUTREACH

Recently Revs. Raphael and Jana Bernadette spent a most fruitful and uplifting week in Chicago. The purpose of the mission was twofold, and it was manifestly blessed on both counts. Firstly, the visit was connected with our annual fund-raising drive, and we extend our warmest thanks to all who gave so generously. Secondly, it was concerned with meeting and sharing with many friends and followers in the Chicago area. To this end we held a prayer meeting for Circle of Power members and others, during which we laid on hands and prayed for many in need of God's healing. This was followed a few days later by an all-day workshop on the Gift of Discerning of Spirits, which brought together a large and diverse group in the aura of God's love and understanding. Both after these events and at other times during the week there were opportunities to catch up on news and to thank the Lord for testimonies to progress and prosperity in His service. We welcomed new Disciples and members of the Circle of Power, gave counseling and discussed ongoing projects in Chicago, for example, Pauline Schuler's dedicated work at the Cook County Jail.

A scene of animated discussion during the Gift of the Discerning of Spirits Workshop. Center standing, Rev. Jana Bernadette and Brendan Tripp. Seated, Pauline Schuler and Jan Jacobs.

Circle of Power members are planning to hold regular prayer meetings, and if you would like to join with this group, either to receive healing yourself or to pray for others in need, please call Christian Mendenhall at (312) 465-5077. Finally, our heartfelt thanks to all of you who helped make this annual mission to Chicago the most successful yet, and special thanks to Christian and Catherine Mendenhall, who organized the events and for providing such generous hospitality.

MEDIA NOTES

November saw Revs. Raphael de Peyer and Jana Bernadette appearing on "Don Kennedy's Spotlight," a show which is transmitted via satellite to 3½ million homes in 44 States. A wide-ranging discussion touched on many aspects of the Ministry, and Don Kennedy was an excellent host.

PRISON MINISTRY

Revs. John Christopher and Charity Benedicte continue to channel the Lord's healing in programs at Death Row in Jackson, Georgia, U.S.P., Atlanta, and Atlanta Women's Transitional Center.